

20040604.ba v03\_n657.bam.20040604

>From ???@??? Fri Jun 4 09:44:55 2004 +0000  
Message-Id: <200406041444.i54EihJG015482@sco.theporch.com>  
Date: Fri, 4 Jun 2004 09:44:27 CDT  
From: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: BOATANCHORS digest 3657

BOATANCHORS Digest 3657

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) Kenwood question  
by Bob Roehrig <broehrig@aurora.edu>
- 2) RE: Leaky Mica Cap in R-388  
by Morris Odell <morriso@vifm.org>
- 3) ARC-5 (R-26) BFO Inoperative  
by Mike Hardie <mike46@shaw.ca>
- 4) Cured! (long)  
by Morris Odell <morriso@vifm.org>
- 5) Re: Cured! (long)  
by wb3fau@att.net
- 6) Re: Wanted: 5 kHz AM filter for Heath SB-301/310  
by John Kolb <jlkolb@cts.com>
- 7) Re: Cured! (but not for)(long)  
by "Ed Zeranski" <ezeran@concentric.net>
- 8) Re: D Day and Pathfinders  
by stuck in 50s <polepeeg@ba-watch.org>
- 9) Re: D Day and Pathfinders  
by =?iso-8859-1?Q?Andr=E9\_Guibert?= <aguibert@sympatico.ca>
- 10) Re: D Day and Pathfinders  
by WA5CAB@cs.com
- 11) Manual for U.S. Coast Guard Model R-115 Receiver  
by WA5CAB@cs.com
- 12) Re: Leaky Mica Cap in R-388  
by John Poulton <jp@cs.unc.edu>

---

Date: Thu, 3 Jun 2004 18:42:40 -0500 (CDT)  
From: Bob Roehrig <broehrig@aurora.edu>  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: Kenwood question  
Message-ID: <Pine.0SF.4.58.0406031840480.203927@mail.aurora.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I am looking for info on what a Kenwood 820S and 830S might sell for.

Bob Roehrig  
Aurora University    Telecom dept.  
broehrig@aurora.edu    73 de K9EUI  
630-844-4898    fax 630-844-4222  
"Nostalgia is a thing of the past"

-----  
Date: Fri, 04 Jun 2004 09:55:46 +1000  
From: Morris Odell <morriso@vifm.org>  
Subject: RE: Leaky Mica Cap in R-388  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Message-id:  
<07A064EA6042D4118A62009027F70E7733A442@nt\_exchange.vifp.monash.edu.au>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: MULTIPART/MIXED; BOUNDARY="Boundary\_(ID\_kCM7fAaE+QLir/6CHh7VVw)"

This is a multi-part message in MIME format...

--Boundary\_(ID\_kCM7fAaE+QLir/6CHh7VVw)  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-disposition: inline  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

> Finally found the problem: C204, a 100pF CM-15 silvered  
> mica,

I used to think micas were above that but have since found quite a few faulty ones over the years. There were also a few in my S-27 that had gone open. They were real micas, not those micamold paper caps with the deceptive name. I believe there were micas used in Racals that were just as crappy as the rest of British electronics of the time (forthcoming post on this subject, stay tuned...)

Morris

\* \* \* CONFIDENTIAL \* \* \*

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--Boundary\_(ID\_kCM7fAaE+QLir/6CHh7VVw)--  
--Boundary\_(ID\_kCM7fAaE+QLir/6CHh7VVw)--  
--Boundary\_(ID\_kCM7fAaE+QLir/6CHh7VVw)--  
--Boundary\_(ID\_kCM7fAaE+QLir/6CHh7VVw)--

-----  
Date: Thu, 03 Jun 2004 20:39:57 -0700  
From: Mike Hardie <mike46@shaw.ca>  
Subject: ARC-5 (R-26) BFO Inoperative  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Message-id: <000001c449e5\$9bb7f800\$6501a8c0@useres6lrwhh61>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

The BFO on my ARC-5 receiver up and quit. A "click" can be heard in the audio when the BFO switch is moved, but it's the same with the switch "on" or "off", good audio but no tone. Quick tests with a VTVM didn't produce anything interesting, and neither did substituting the 12SR7 tube. The troubleshooting has just begun but does anyone have any suggestions?

Mike VE7MMH

-----  
Date: Fri, 04 Jun 2004 14:10:21 +1000  
From: Morris Odell <morriso@vifm.org>  
Subject: Cured! (long)  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Message-id:  
<07A064EA6042D4118A62009027F70E7742753B@nt\_exchange.vifp.monash.edu.au>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: multipart/mixed; boundary="Boundary\_(ID\_jZjBvSVEs51abKad+WDJNA)"

This is a multi-part message in MIME format...

--Boundary\_(ID\_jZjBvSVEs51abKad+WDJNA)  
Content-type: text/plain  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT  
Content-disposition: inline

Anchorites,

This is a tale of finally coming of age, the realisation that a former idol indeed has feet of clay. It was depressing at the time, but ultimately uplifting and left me with a curious sense of having a weight lifted from my shoulders.

The tale concerns a boatanchor, but first let me set the scene.

I grew up in the 1950s and 60s when Australia was much more of a former British colony than it is today. Everything we experienced was based on the British system and even those of us with no anglo-saxon ancestry thought of England as "home". In this environment I fell in love with electronics, and of all the unattainable radios that were pictured in the local magazines, the Eddystone radios were the most beautiful. Who could fail to be enraptured by that beautiful dial and the elegant die-cast metalwork which persisted in the consciousness long after the radios disappeared. Their die-cast boxes remained on the market here for years.

Many years later I was able to own a few Eddys - and even then, as in other areas of human experience it was all too easy to forgive the little imperfections. Insensitive? - well that's the best they could do back then...Hard to work on? - well that's British engineering for you, just like their cars. Drifty? - well it's an EDDYSTONE isn't it - you've got to forgive that, look at how beautiful the dial is. Unreliable? - well the postwar period was a difficult time for the poor Brits. Horrible capacitors & resistors? - ditto. Expensive tubes? - we've become much more Americanised these days tsk tsk.....and so on.

Of all the Eddystone boatanchors the most desirable seemed to be the 880/2. This radio was allegedly produced in limited quantities as a second source for something similar to a Collins 51J4. Like it, the radio tunes in 30 1 MHz segments each one going from one 0.5 MHz point to another eg 3.5 to 4.5, just like the 51J4. It also uses a slug rack to tune the RF circuits but no PTO. It was rumoured to be "very heavy"!! I always wanted one but they were not easy to find.

A couple of weeks ago I finally ran into a gentleman who had one for sale! I was rapt. As soon as I could I arranged to go and see him. He lived in the hills outside of town and it was a pleasant drive on a sunny afternoon. What could be better?

The radio was rather grubby but hey, it's 40 years old and it's an Eddystone...there's the lovely dial. "There's a little backlash in the tuning", he said, "the calibration is only accurate if you tune one way" - well I could forgive that, I'm handy in the workshop and I'm sure I can fix it. I was getting more and more excited as he hefted it up on the bench, powered it up and applied a screwdriver to the covers.....and then, right there, is when the scales fell from my eyes.

Suddenly the holy grail became a broken crock. There it was...horrible phenolic circuit boards (known as muckite in the trade), disgusting plastic British Dubilier capacitors\* and those nasty little coarse complexioned low tolerance carbon resistors of the type found in cheap bakelite radios. 30 position muckite bandswitches peering out of little holes in the RF deck.

Cheap multi pin plastic connectors and TV style Belling-Lee coax connectors. The unobtainable and expensive N78 output tube....I just looked at it and as the roar and hiss from its noisy mixers (? 6BE6s) filled my ears I just thought "no, no, I don't want to do this".

On the positive side, there were some nice touches - the beautiful Jackson Bros VFO tuning cap (on a buried muckite board, full of components needing replacement). The elegant rack drive of right angle bevel gears driving two vertical leadscrews which wind the rack up & down - alas no anti-backlash gears to drive them though, hence the one way tuning. The Eddystone dial of course. The neon glow from the two little 75 volt VR tubes.

Maybe it's because I had been recently working a high quality American boatanchor, but I just couldn't face it. Suddenly the shortcomings of the other Eddys all came into perspective. They're junk. Elegant, well intentioned junk. The Jaguar XJ6 series 1 of the communications receiver world. I'd had enough.

The seller was very nice about it. We had a cup of tea and talked about the meaning of life and then I left, a sadder but wiser man. Already the 770U has been sold and the others won't be far behind. My home will be an Eddystone free zone, and I will be all the better for it.

73,

Morris VK3DOC

\* Those caps, marginally better than the infamous Hunts, make the US Black Beauties look like GR lab standard caps in comparison.

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--Boundary\_(ID\_jZjBvSVEs51abKad+WDJNA)--  
--Boundary\_(ID\_jZjBvSVEs51abKad+WDJNA)--  
--Boundary\_(ID\_jZjBvSVEs51abKad+WDJNA)--  
--Boundary\_(ID\_jZjBvSVEs51abKad+WDJNA)--

-----  
From: wb3fau@att.net  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

Cc: Morris Odell <morriso@vifm.org>,  
Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: Re: Cured! (long)  
Date: Fri, 04 Jun 2004 04:51:32 +0000  
Message-Id:  
<060420040451.19312.40BFFFD10006CE1F00004B7021587667559A0E00CC0D99@att.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
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Content-Type: text/plain  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

----- Original message from Morris Odell : -----  
> Anchorites,  
>  
> This is a tale of finally coming of age, the realisation that a former idol  
> indeed has feet of clay. It was depressing at the time, but ultimately  
> uplifting and left me with a curious sense of having a weight lifted from my  
> shoulders.  
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> The tale concerns a boatanchor, but first let me set the scene.  
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> I grew up in the 1950s and 60s when Australia was much more of a former  
> British colony than it is today. Everything we experienced was based on the  
> British system and even those of us with no anglo-saxon ancestry thought of  
> England as "home". In this environment I fell in love with electronics, and  
> of all the unattainable radios that were pictured in the local magazines,  
> the Eddystone radios were the most beautiful. Who could fail to be  
> enraptured by that beautiful dial and the elegant die-cast metalwork which  
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> die-cast boxes remained on the market here for years.  
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> areas of human experience it was all too easy to forgive the little  
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>  
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> wow Morris, I had some thought of finding some Eddystone receivers some time  
> back. If black beauties are like lab grade by comparison, i think I should  
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> bother, and save myself some frustration. Russ.  
>  
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> or destroy all copies of this message and any attachments.  
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Content-Type: text/html  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

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<BLOCKQUOTE style="PADDING-LEFT: 5px; MARGIN-LEFT: 5px; BORDER-LEFT: #1010ff 2px
solid">
<P>----- Original message from Morris Odell <MORRISO@VIFM.ORG>:
----- <BR>&gt; Anchorites, <BR>&gt; <BR>&gt; This is a tale of finally
coming of age, the realisation that a former idol <BR>&gt; indeed has feet of
clay. It was depressing at the time, but ultimately <BR>&gt; uplifting and left me
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```



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</P>&nbsp; If&nbsp; black beauties are&nbsp; like&nbsp; lab grade by comparison,&nbsp; i think I should not </P>

<P>bother,&nbsp; and&nbsp; save&nbsp; myself some&nbsp; frustration.&nbsp; Russ.<BR>&gt; <BR>&gt; \* \* \* CONFIDENTIAL \* \* \* <BR>&gt; The information in this message and in any attachments may be <BR>&gt; confidential. If you are not the intended recipient of this message, <BR>&gt; you must not read, forward, disclose, or use in any way the <BR>&gt; information this message or any attachment contains. If you are not the <BR>&gt; intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately and delete <BR>&gt; or destroy all copies of this message and any attachments. </P></BLOCKQUOTE>

<!-- END WEBMAIL STATIONERY -->

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-----  
Date: Thu, 3 Jun 2004 22:29:54 -0700 (PDT)  
From: John Kolb <jlkolb@cts.com>  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
cc: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: Re: Wanted: 5 kHz AM filter for Heath SB-301/310  
Message-ID: <Pine.BSF.4.44.0406032226020.27167-100000@king.cts.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

While the SWL receivers SB-310, 313 had a 5 kHz xtal filter, the AM filter for the ham rigs was only 3.75 kHz, making the 5 KHz filter very rare.

A conversion I did on several 310's, back when Heath was still alive, and fitlers reasonably priced, was replace the CW filter with the 3.75 kHz filter and rewire the mode switch so the CW switch position was AM rather than BFO, thus having both wide

and narrow AM.

On Thu, 3 Jun 2004 spr@earthlink.net wrote:

> Just got a Heath SB-310 and the 5 kHz filter is missing. It has the  
> 2.1kHz and 400 Hz filters. Are there any 5K units available? Trade for  
> 400 Hz filter is a possibility, although I'd rather keep it whole if I  
> can.

-----  
Message-ID: <001501c449ef\$a17aaf80\$a4d7fea9@g5p3m4>  
From: "Ed Zeranski" <ezeran@concentric.net>  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: Re: Cured! (but not for)(long)  
Date: Thu, 3 Jun 2004 21:51:39 -0700  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
        charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The radio was rather grubby but hey, it's 40 years old and it's an  
Eddystone...there's the lovely dial. ....

No probs!!! Just wait 'til the next 'un!! Look for a '40s - '50s  
transmitter to match ~8^o

EdZ  
San Diego, CA  
SRT-14/15  
BC-610  
TCK-7

-----  
Date: Fri, 4 Jun 2004 07:05:34 -0400 (EDT)  
From: stuck in 50s <polepeeg@ba-watch.org>  
Message-Id: <200406041105.i54B5Yxm027326@fracas.netboobie.org>  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: Re: D Day and Pathfinders

Herb aren't those transponders/interrogators(in gooney) the Rebecca-  
Eureka system? A system roughhly based on the 160-200mcs Mk-II/III  
IFF system.

There's a milsurplus fella that has an entire set-up.

My curiosity's piqued. Will look up in history of sig-corps.

Wish I'd seen show... but it'll come again

Marty

-----  
Message-ID: <000401c44a3b\$07e52480\$4856acce@b1yhp64>  
From: =?iso-8859-1?Q?Andr=E9\_Guibert?= <aguibert@sympatico.ca>  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Cc: "Boatanchors" <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: Re: D Day and Pathfinders  
Date: Fri, 4 Jun 2004 09:50:49 -0400  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
        charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Bonjour Marty

My thoughts exactly, Pierre Lorain in his book "Armements Clandestins" describe the setup used in landing agents in France, the "Rebecca-Eureka". Louis Meulstee's "Wireless for the Warrior" gives a description of the WS37 that matches. " Wireless No. 37 was developed for short range communications

for parachute troops..".

Frequency Coverage: 340-385 Megs.

Not very successful, but seems to have been the basis for the "S-Phone" and "Rebecca- Eureka" versions.

On the other hand, the above WS are not transponders, more for homing and communications.

Which system was used on D Day?

Andre

----- Original Message -----

From: stuck in 50s <polepeeg@ba-watch.org>  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2004 7:05 AM  
Subject: Re: D Day and Pathfinders

> Herb aren't those transponders/interrogators(in gooney) the Rebecca-Eureka system? A system roughhly based on the 160-200mcs Mk-II/III > IFF system.

>

> There's a milsurplus fella that has an entire set-up.

>

> My curiosity's piqued. Will look up in history of sig-corps.

>

> Wish I'd seen show... but it'll come again

>

> Marty

>  
>

-----  
From: WA5CAB@cs.com  
Message-ID: <160.304afb72.2df1da36@cs.com>  
Date: Fri, 4 Jun 2004 09:59:18 EDT  
Subject: Re: D Day and Pathfinders  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;  
boundary="part1\_160.304afb72.2df1da36\_boundary"

--part1\_160.304afb72.2df1da36\_boundary  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Herb,

Probably AN/APN-2 (Rebecca) Interrogator and AN/PPN-1, AN/PPN-1A or AN/PPN-2 (Eureka) (SCR-729) Beacon Transponder. I have a copy of the AN/PPN-1A and -2 manuals but have never been able to locate one on the aircraft end.

In a message dated 6/4/2004 6:08:36 AM Central Daylight Time,  
polepeeg@ba-watch.org writes:

> Herb aren't those transponders/interrogators(in gooney) the Rebecca-  
> Eureka system? A system roughly based on the 160-200mcs Mk-II/III  
> IFF system.  
>

73

Robert Downs - Houston  
<<http://www.wa5cab.com>> (Web Store)  
<wa5cab@cs.com> (Primary email)  
<wa5cab@houston.rr.com> (Backup email)

--part1\_160.304afb72.2df1da36\_boundary  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* ---REMAINDER OF MESSAGE TRUNCATED--- \*  
\* This post contains a forbidden message format \*  
\* (such as an attached file, a v-card, HTML formatting) \*  
\* Mail Lists at theporch.com only accept PLAIN TEXT \*

\* If your postings display this message your mail program \*  
\* is not set to send PLAIN TEXT ONLY and needs adjusting \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

--part1\_160.304afb72.2df1da36\_boundary--

-----  
From: WA5CAB@cs.com  
Message-ID: <15c.362d38d2.2df1dff1@cs.com>  
Date: Fri, 4 Jun 2004 10:23:45 EDT  
Subject: Manual for U.S. Coast Guard Model R-115 Receiver  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;  
boundary="part1\_15c.362d38d2.2df1dff1\_boundary"

--part1\_15c.362d38d2.2df1dff1\_boundary  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Groups,

I stumbled across an original manual on the R-115. If anyone is interested,  
I could reprint it. And before anyone asks, this is the only USCG receiver  
that I've ever had a manual on.

73  
Robert Downs - Houston  
<<http://www.wa5cab.com>> (Web Store)  
<[wa5cab@cs.com](mailto:wa5cab@cs.com)> (Primary email)  
<[wa5cab@houston.rr.com](mailto:wa5cab@houston.rr.com)> (Backup email)

--part1\_15c.362d38d2.2df1dff1\_boundary  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* ---REMAINDER OF MESSAGE TRUNCATED--- \*  
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\* If your postings display this message your mail program \*  
\* is not set to send PLAIN TEXT ONLY and needs adjusting \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

--part1\_15c.362d38d2.2df1dff1\_boundary--

-----  
Date: Fri, 4 Jun 2004 10:44:19 -0400 (EDT)  
From: John Poulton <jp@cs.unc.edu>  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: Re: Leaky Mica Cap in R-388  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.58.0406041024450.16997@swan.cs.unc.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

A somewhat alarming follow-up on the mica cap adventure:

To continue the saga, when I located the bad cap (an Elmenco 100 pF CM-15 silvered mica), I replaced it with an exact duplicate from my parts bins. The replacement was clean, clearly unused, long leads.. basically a nice, new, exact replacement.

So, last night I started work on receiver alignment. For about an hour, everything's going as planned, when suddenly the receiver drops dead as a doornail, S-meter pegged. Poked around the now-painfully-familiar AGC/Detector system, and found the same damned problem as reported in my first post!

Somewhat skeptically, I removed the apparently brand-new CM-15 and replaced it with a brown epoxy-dipped SM, also brand new. Radio springs back to life. After a short period of mourning for the youthful demise of the CM-15, got back to work on the alignment (spelled "alinement" in all versions of the R-388 manual :).

Today put the 2nd CM-15 on the curve tracer. At first, it's a \*resistor\*, nice and linear, about 500K, until I cranked the voltage up to about 100V, then it abruptly takes on the same behavior as the 1st cap (cap in parallel with crappy crossed diodes). Evidently, the dendritic action that causes these things to fail can happen while the cap is sitting in a parts bin just as easily as in a hot radio. Stone bummer!

Lesson learned: those "NOS" parts I've been buying at hamfests for years and squirreling away may not have been all that great an idea... At the very least, when I pull parts from my bins, I'm going to "trust, but verify"!

73 de John K4OZY

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End of BOATANCHORS Digest 3657

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